

AIRLINE ACCOMMODATIONS

§ 301-10.121 What classes of airline accommodations are available?

The following classes of air accommodations are available:

(a) *Coach-class*. The basic class of accommodations offered to travelers regardless of fare paid. The terms “tourist” or “economy-class” are sometimes used for this class of accommodation. When authorizing this class of accommodation, use of the contract city-pair fare is mandatory.

(b) *Business-class*. A premium-class of accommodation offered by the airlines that is higher than coach and lower than first class, in both cost and amenities. This class of accommodation is generally referred to as “business, business elite, business first, world business, connoisseur, or envoy” depending on the airline. Not all city-pair fares are available in business-class, and even when use of business-class is authorized, the use of business-class city-pair fares is optional. This class of service may only be authorized in accordance with the provisions of § 301-10.124 of this part.

(c) *First-class*. Generally, the highest class of accommodation offered by the airlines in terms of both cost and amenities and termed “first-class” by the airlines and any reservation system. This class of accommodation may only be authorized in accordance with the provisions of § 301-10.123 of this part. There are no contract city-pair fares for this class of accommodation.

(d) *Single-class*. This term applies when an airline offers only one class of accommodations to all travelers.

[FTR Amdt. 2005-03, 70 FR 28460, May 18, 2005]

§ 301-10.122 What class of airline accommodations must I use?

For official business travel, both domestic and international, you must use coach-class accommodations, except as provided under §§ 301-10.123 and 301-10.124.

§ 301-10.123 When may I use first-class airline accommodations?

You may use first-class airline accommodations only when your agency specifically authorizes/approves your use of such accommodations, for the

reasons given under paragraphs (a) through (d) of this section.

(a) No coach or business-class accommodations are reasonably available. “Reasonably available” means available on an airline that is scheduled to leave within 24 hours of your proposed departure time, or scheduled to arrive within 24 hours of your proposed arrival time.

(b) When use of first-class is necessary to accommodate a disability or other special need. A disability must be substantiated in writing by a competent medical authority. A special need must be substantiated in writing according to your agency’s procedures. If you are authorized under § 301-13.3(a) of this chapter to have an attendant accompany you, your agency also may authorize the attendant to use first-class accommodations if you require the attendant’s services en route.

(c) When exceptional security circumstances require first-class travel. Exceptional security circumstances are determined by your agency and include, but are not limited to:

(1) Use of other than first-class accommodations would endanger your life or Government property;

(2) You are an agent on protective detail and you are accompanying an individual authorized to use first-class accommodations; or

(3) You are a courier or control officer accompanying controlled pouches or packages.

(d) When required because of agency mission.

NOTE TO § 301-10.123: You may upgrade to first-class at your personal expense, including through redemption of frequent flyer benefits.

[FTR Amdt. 70, 63 FR 15955, Apr. 1, 1998, as amended by FTR Amdt. 104, 67 FR 17947, Apr. 12, 2002; FTR Amdt. 2005-03, 70 FR 28460, May 18, 2005]

§ 301-10.124 When may I use business-class airline accommodations?

Only when your agency specifically authorizes/approves your use of such accommodations, for the reasons given under paragraphs (a) through (i) of this section.

(a) Regularly scheduled flights between origin/destination points (including connecting points) provide only